

# NEWSLETTER



St Andrew's Church, Marks Tey

[www.marksteychurch.org.uk](http://www.marksteychurch.org.uk)

## Dear Friends,

For Christians Easter is more important than Christmas. Easter is the heart of Christianity. Holy Week begins with Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem to his resurrection a week later. It occupies about a third of the four Gospels account of Jesus' life and ministry.

During those few days there is some of Jesus' most important teaching. He attempts to pre-warn his disciples of his imminent death. At the last Supper on Maundy Thursday we see the humility of Jesus in washing his disciples' feet, in giving a new command to 'Love one another as I have loved you', in the promise of the coming of the Holy Spirit and instructing them on the sharing of bread and wine in his memory.

The trial of Jesus is a mockery of justice and His death at the hands of the Romans is typically brutal. What Jesus' followers did not foresee was his resurrection even though it fulfilled Old Testament prophecies.

Several weeks later at Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was poured out Peter spoke to the crowd *"God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it."* The resurrection was not an after thought it was the central event. The once frightened disciples began preaching that Jesus had risen from the dead and many went to their death instead of denying otherwise.

Later the Apostle Paul wrote *'if there is no resurrection of the dead - our preaching is useless and so is your faith'*.

For Christians Easter represents Jesus' victory over death and sin, confirms He was the son of God, that we can have forgiveness and restored relationship with God through His sacrifice, and for believers the hope of eternal life

It's not about being perfect or doing everything right.

Do yourself a favour read the final chapters of John's Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles.

Best Wishes, **Andrew Waters** Churchwarden



## Easter Services

at St Andrew's Church,  
Church Lane, Marks Tey

### Maundy Thursday 2nd April

7.30pm Holy Communion

with Rev Paul Greenland

### Good Friday 3rd April

9.15am Meditation Service at Aldham

### Easter Sunday 5th April

11am Holy Communion

with Rev David Beales

### Sunday 12th April

11am Morning Worship

Incorporating Annual Meeting

### Sunday 19th April

11am Holy Communion

with Rev John Chandler

### Sunday 26th April

11am Morning Worship

*You are very welcome to join us on a Sunday morning and afterwards to stay for a drink and refreshments.*

*The Church is always open so if you would like a time of quiet reflection or just to look around, do drop in.*

Enjoy a Barn Dance?  
Looking for an active, social and fun evening?

Want to learn from scratch or improve?  
No partner needed.

## FREE FOLK DANCE TASTER SESSION

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 7.30-9.30pm  
St Andrew's Church Hall, Marks Tey CO6 1LW.  
Easy car parking.

Please let us know if you are interested:  
Contact: Cathy Rayner 01206 210363  
chrayner@yahoo.co.uk

Marks Tey Folk Dance Group  
Meets 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month.  
Newcomers always welcome any evening.  
£2 per session, hot drink and biscuits included.

Photo from Mothering Sunday Family Service  
Gillian Anderson with Reverend John Chandler.



This month we will be praying for all who live or work in **Long Green, Wilson's Lane, Stane Field,, Ley Field, and Dinant's Crescent.**

For further details/prayer requests, please contact us on:  
[prayer@marksteychurch.org.uk](mailto:prayer@marksteychurch.org.uk)

## The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Although the funded support from the Heritage Fund has now ended substantial work continues in the expansion and enhancement of the website.

A considerable amount of fresh material has been offered in the last few weeks and material has been promised from several established businesses. Local feedback has been very positive and with a fine endorsement from the Heritage Fund 'the digital archived is particularly impressive'. [www.marksteyheritage.org](http://www.marksteyheritage.org) website will continue to expand and develop.

If you feel able to contribute or help in any way do get in touch. **Andrew Waters.**



**Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals** for your family can take place in St Andrew's Church. You don't need to be a regular Sunday worshipper. We are your church, please ask and we'll do our best for you!



## St Andrew's Church of England Primary Academy

World Book Day was a resounding success, with students arriving in a variety of imaginative costumes that celebrated their favourite literary characters. The day not only promoted a love for reading but also included the announcement of our new Library Mural competition winners. Each winner received a £5 voucher to spend at the upcoming Book Fair, encouraging them to continue their reading journey. In celebration of Mother's Day, we hosted an afternoon tea that brought together mothers, grandmothers, and other significant women in our pupils' lives. The event featured delicious scones with jam and cream, providing a lovely opportunity for families to spend quality time together in the school hall. It was truly lovely to see the joy on the children's faces as they shared this special occasion with their loved ones.

Additionally, I am excited to report that many children at St Andrew's are now participating in Rock Steady, our music programme that nurtures musical talent and offers a chance to explore a wider variety of instruments. This half term, we will witness our first Rock Band performances, showcasing the hard work and dedication of the children who have been participating. Also, Sycamore class has been engaging in weekly Toot lessons, and they will also present a performance to parents to showcase their learning.

Across the school, we continue to see excellent behaviour, with calm classrooms and impressive attitudes towards learning. This positive environment has been recognised by our recent Academy Development Team visit, which noted the students' eagerness to engage in their learning and the high expectations from all staff. Finally, we are looking forward to welcoming parents/carers into school for parents' evening during the final week of term before enjoying an Easter performance from Chestnut class.

Best wishes, **Mr. Keith Birbeck** Headteacher

St Andrew's Church of England Primary Academy

Mandeville Road, Marks Tey, Colchester, Essex. CO6 1HL

Telephone Number: 01206 210638



**Tes Schools Awards 2025**  
Winner  
Trust of the Year – 9 schools or fewer



## 1st Tey Rainbows

We have had a busy Spring term working on our Lead Skills Builder and completing the Animal Antics Challenge Badge alongside. The girls have enjoyed decorating cakes, adopting a cuddly animal, making marble runs and having a glow stick disco.

To celebrate 100 Years of World Thinking Day we looked at Rainbow uniforms from around the world and did a variety of activities and games linked to our Promise. The leaders were very lucky to take a group of 38 girls to enjoy an unforgettable weekend at Hautbois House - Anglia Region's main Girlguiding activity centre. Brownies, Guides, Rangers and Young Leaders from Tey District enjoyed the adventure, not least because they travelled there by train!

We had an action-packed end to the term with a visit from a lady bringing pygmy hedgehogs for us to learn about and handle, then an Easter hunt and our usual Badge Presentation and Promise Ceremony.

If you feel your daughter (or granddaughter) would be interested in becoming a Rainbow, Brownie, Guide or Ranger, please register at:

<https://go.girlguiding.org.uk/join-us/join-as-member/>

Have a lovely Easter. **Ali and Beth**



**COMMUNITY LIBRARY&CAFÉ**  
Warm Space

Dates for 2026

April 4th

May 2nd

June 6th

July 4th

August 1st

September 5th

October 3rd

November 7th

December 5th

Parish Hall

10am-12.30pm.



**The St. Andrew's Church Hall is Available for Private Hire.**

Price for three hours £55 then £16/hour after or £8 for 30 minutes. For regular hire charges and to hire the Hall please contact **Yvonne Norman**. Further details can be found on the church website

<https://www.marksteychurch.org.uk/marks-tey-church-hall>



## The Pride of Marks Tey Awards 2026

The hunt is on to find inspirational individuals and groups for Marks Tey's first community awards ceremony. Marks Tey Parish Councillors are seeking people of any age to receive 'Special Community Awards'. - Individuals, groups, charities, sports and social clubs, community associations, associations for the disabled, churches, schools, youth organisations, etc. are all eligible.

Nominations are sought for The Pride of Marks Tey Awards - You or anyone could nominate a **Local Citizen**, or a **Carer** who has gone above and beyond what is expected of them. You might want to nominate a **Young Achiever of the Year**, or a teacher who is a **Champion Educator**. Maybe someone has had a far-reaching **Impact in the Community** or has given **Long Service as a volunteer** or made a significant **Business Contribution to the Community**.

The judges for The 'Pride of Marks Tey' awards will be looking for ambassadors whose contribution to our village improves life for residents and visitors and whose commitment is outstanding.

The deadline for nominations is **20th April 2026**

The award ceremony will be part of the Councils Annual Assembly on **Monday 18th May 2026** at the Marks Tey Parish Halls, Marks Tey CO6 1EJ.

All nominees and candidates for the awards will receive an invitation.

Friends and families and anyone interested are welcome to attend to meet members of the Council and ask any questions they may have. Free refreshments will be provided.

How to make a Nomination

The nomination form can be found at: <https://forms.gle/CDmqVF5w13uZjG987> or scan QR code



MARKS TEY ANNUAL ASSEMBLY  
**PRIDE OF MARKS TEY AWARDS**  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May  
7-9pm  
Marks Tey Parish Hall  
E: ASSISTANT\_BOOKINGS@MARKSTEYPARISH.GOV.UK



**Community Library and Café Warm Space**

**Saturday 4th April Marks Tey Parish Hall 10am-12.30pm**

Come down to the Parish Hall on April 4th and see what it is all about. It's a lovely way to spend a morning in a warm space and for the children to look at a book and do some crafts. Come and borrow a book or two and have a coffee/tea and cake .

It is a good place to catch up with people you may not have seen for a while and have a chat over a drink or mug of soup and a sausage roll or even a piece of home-made cake.

If anyone is a baker we would really appreciate a cake if you would be able to make one for us please. We like to have as big a selection as possible. It is all donations only which go towards future community events. Thank you.

We have a lot of books on our bookcases but if you have a favourite author then we may have more books of theirs in our stock cupboards, so please ask.

There is a big children's section with lots of books for them to read and a craft table for them too. There isn't any fee to join, and you can borrow up to 4 books per person for a month.

We will have two craft tables:- Sue with her homemade cards and Jo with diamond craft gifts. Both are very beautiful. Corinne will be there with some of her plants too at £1 each.

Look forward to seeing you. **Yvonne 07709064599**

**MARKS TEY SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL**  
 In aid of Essex & Herts Air Ambulance  
 St Andrew's Church and MTPC Community Events  
**SATURDAY, 29TH AUGUST**  
 12:00 TO 6PM AT MARKS TEY PARISH HALL, OLD LONDON ROAD, CO6 1EJ  
 Tickets go on sale soon  
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**Community Picnic** Our next two Community Picnics will be on **Wednesday, 8th April and Wednesday, 27th May 12:00 to 3pm** at the Parish Hall. Bring your own picnic and we'll provide the fun with bouncy castle, dress up, crafting, toys and games. Tea, coffee, squash and snacks are available. There is no charge for entry due to Holmes and Hills Solicitors kindly sponsoring these afternoons.



**Young at Heart**



The Young at Heart group for the over 50's living in the Marks Tey area meets on the first Wednesday of the month from 2pm to 4pm. We have a variety of activities including guest speakers, quizzes, bingo and games or just come for a chat and to meet and make friends. Come and join us at the Parish Hall, Old London Road for our next meeting on **1st April** for tea, coffee and delicious home made cake and, maybe, a hot sausage roll.

All welcome.

For more information contact  
 Trish on **07815 125261**  
 Find us on **Facebook**  
[www.facebook.com/marksteyparishcouncil](http://www.facebook.com/marksteyparishcouncil)

The Deadline for Contributions for the May Edition of the St Andrew's Church Newsletter is **15th April 2026.**



**Colchester Early Music**  
 Glorious Early Music at St. Andrew's Church, Marks Tey.

**Season finale: A weekend with...**



**18th April 1.30-5.30pm – Instrumental workshop: "Cover Story"**

Based on the research that has gone in to our "Cover Story" concerts and forthcoming album. Play some of the most famous and popular melodies of the late Middle Ages and early Renaissance. Blondel members Dr Emily Baines, Belinda Paul and Lizzie Gutteridge will guide you as you explore how music was re-worked and re-purposed over the decades and across geographical borders. Open to all instruments both ancient and modern.

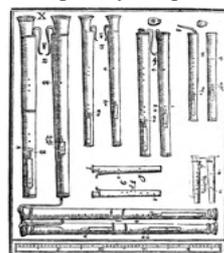
Please pre-book online using the address below. Tickets range from **£5 for observers through £10 for beginners, £15 for students/low income to £25 full price.**



**19th April 2.30-3.30pm – Concert: "Short & Sweet"**

Blondel are back, and this time they're bringing out the curtains! Invented in the 16th century, the double bore of these instruments made them more compact and gave them a sweeter tone. In this concert we'll bring you consorts, chansons and dance tunes by Byrd, Holborne, Bassano, Ruffo and others, performed on trios of curtals, recorders and bagpipes.

Tickets **£15/10 online & on the door (cash please)** accompanied **UNDER 18s FREE**



[www.colchesterearlymusic.org.uk](http://www.colchesterearlymusic.org.uk)

How did a marginal dialect spoken in the late ninth century by 200,000 people become the world's language spoken by 1,600,000,000 people today?

**AMOROUS OR LOVING?**

The Highly Peculiar Tale of English and the English

**Wednesday 8th April 2026**

**6.30pm for 7pm**

**St Andrews Church Marks Tey CO6 1LW**

Sir Rupert Gavin has been a central figure in UK's cultural, historical, media and business worlds for the last 40 years. He was CEO of BBC Worldwide, MD of British Telecom, CEO of Odeon Cinemas, Chairman of Historic Royal Palaces, Chairman of the Honours Committee for Arts and Media, and he is a former Master of the Grocers' Company. He is also one of the country's leading theatre producers with 200 West End and Broadway shows under his belt, winning 28 Olivier awards on the way.

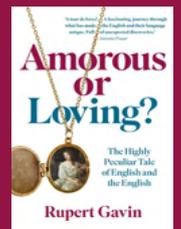


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**8/4/26**  
**7pm**

**BOOK NOW**



**Church Website** [www.marksteychurch.org.uk](http://www.marksteychurch.org.uk)

Wishing A Happy Easter To All Our Readers.

**Rector:** Vacancy (The Rectory, Church Lane CO6 1LW )

**Church Warden:** Andrew Waters, 43 London Road, Copford, CO6 1LG 07774 709989

**Pastoral:** Tim Dooley, 65 Godmans Lane, Marks Tey CO6 1NQ Mob 07878 769843

**Treasurer: + Church Hall & Bookings:** Yvonne Norman 29 Coggeshall Rd Marks Tey CO6 1LL Mob 07709 064599

**Newsletter Editor:** Julie Briggs, 8 Keable Road, Colchester CO6 1XB email : [juliebrig8@gmail.com](mailto:juliebrig8@gmail.com)

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